

THE WEEK IN SOCIETY.

What Fashionable People Have Been Doing in the Past Seven Days.

PLEASURES BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS.

The Inaugural Ball of the Season--Card Parties and Receptions to Give Spice to the Mid-Winter Gaieties.

As Christmas what it used to be! It doesn't seem as though the goings on of the present are recalled in contrast with those that made up the lives of our fathers and mothers, and even were a part of our childhood.

When the winter was a youngster, Christmas toys and cards were not advertised on the 1st of November, and Christmas numbers of the papers only seemed to come out in time to find glad faces at the breakfast table the morning of Santa Claus' visit.

A "symposium" recently published on the subject of "Santa Claus" indicates that there are a number of people represented as parents and teachers of children who deem it immoral and devilish to cause children to believe in the existence of the jolly old elf; that the realization, finally, that there is no such being as he, to the children doubt trust and better teaching.

There is no use arguing this thing. These deductions are absurd, and you might as well cast out from literature, but it may injure young people, all fairy stories, mythology, and everything else likely to be believed in during that delightful period of life called childhood.

The number who do not draw about her the joys of her childhood, and for within her a charming reminiscence of early years, heartiness in reciting Clement Moore's "Twas the night before Christmas," is unworthy God's blessing.

Why! Because it speaks of home. The man or woman grows, who does not seem to have an empty place in thoughts on Christmas day--a lonely place, where the memory of one moment's return, when the toy Noah's ark or the tin locomotive was first discovered on the fireplace in the happy dance of that happy morn--

God bless Santa Claus! God bless the children of those sweet, loving mothers who so live in their own hearts, and remain as almost believe in that wholesome and happy myth. For he is an honest purveyor of the teachings of Christ in that it better to give than receive.

But what can this have to do with the world of fashion? May be little, but do not the leaders in the society of the children of the year, to be remembered upon this universal day of peace, which midnight "Wednesday" will usher in?

There is simply a suggestion to those whose names have been mentioned time and again in these columns, to so surround their children with the spirit of the season, that they, the little ones, will come to believe that the real Christmas is not that which comes and goes every 25th of December, but that which lives in the heart all the year round.

Socially the week has not been noted for great doings in society, although there have been many delightful little affairs, which seem to be the exception of the rule, as the season grows old. Hostesses are gradually coming to the opinion that two or three little affairs during the season, wherein you may show the crowd, and the old about you, in turn, is so much pleasanter than a crush and then have remarks made about the crowds and the service and so on ad infinitum.

The Dickey german was a very delightful though somewhat informal party, but it broke up almost as soon as it was announced, and is announced to take place during January.

The Turner reception brought out the smart women in large numbers, while several charming card parties have been given, but little opportunity to show what they know of the ensuing game of high five.

Next week probably the expense of the affair, but the quality of the work is high, and the scenes of her childhood.

In view of the fact that a number of Germans are to be given in the near future the following hints for favors may not be out of place.

One of the most unique is a crush hat made in delicate satins after the latest style and exactly like the one worn by the regulation opera hat. During the hours when gentlemen will dance with these beautiful bits of color under their arms and after the ball they will be used as a receptacle for the lady's hat, draped with lace or net and mounted on a long crook handle tied with ribbons.

Then there are reins of painted ribbon padded with sachet powder with an armpe attached to one end and a fringe of bells at the other that are sure to be worn by the dancers.

It is a peculiar fact that some women will flourish within twenty minutes after there are flowers in their hands, and there will wear them for hours and they will look as fresh as when they were first plucked on. A florist says: "Women wear flowers sometimes because they are so beautiful, and sometimes because they know there is nothing in common between them and the wearer. They are like little children; they love those who love them, and their best, brightest beauty is given to the woman who puts the bouquet on their hair for the flowers." A physician said: "When a woman wears flowers within a very few minutes. It is a sure indication that a poisonous vapor is escaping from the lungs, and the great danger may be the result of disease, or it may be that bathing and proper care of the skin are neglected. The body that is kept in wholesome cleanliness will give new life to the flowers. A magnetic strength is imparted from the wearer to the flower, and long after the woman is weary and has had an afternoon's shopping or calling the flowers will smile back at her with her own strength. She gives life to the flowers through the sweetness of her body. There is such a difference in women about the care of the person. Some of our best dressed and wealthiest ladies are the most negligent. They seem to have no pride. There is nothing more discernible than this disregard. They are either ignorant or unconscious of the fact or else they are without the pride which would give intelligence. Flowers cannot live in the poisonous vapor

and they betray the secret of invisible neglect by soon drooping."

Brownell Hall Musical.

The semi-annual musical recital of the Brownell hall young ladies occurred at that place last Thursday evening. The large auditorium was densely crowded with the friends and relatives of the participants in the recital, many of them being from out of town. Among those present were noted Rev. D. T. Brady of Crete, Dean Whitmarsh of South Omaha, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey of Wilber, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Hanson of Council Bluffs, C. Thomas of Grand Island, Mr. Hospe, Mrs. Huntington and Mrs. Doty of David City, Otto Morton of the Nebraska City News, Captain John Simpson and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. William J. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. John Peters, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Haller, Mrs. G. W. Lininger, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Hanson, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Kory, Dr. and Mrs. Holman, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Wilkins, Harry Wilkins, W. Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. George Barker, Mrs. Heth, Mrs. Miller of Greenwood, Ky., Harry Heth, Stock Heth.

The young ladies who were to participate in the entertainment were gathered in the recital hall at 7 o'clock. The program was under the direction of Miss Wallace, the instructor in instrumental music, and Mrs. J. W. Cotton, who has charge of the vocal classes at the hall.

The programme was a long one and occupied over two hours in its delivery. The first number was a piano quartette by Messrs. Edna Foyles, Edna Doherty, Margaret Olsen and Margaret Graves, all of whom were between the ages of ten and fifteen. The number was well received, and was followed by a vocal duet by Miss Clara Palmer and Amy Baker. This was a double number and was sung with good taste and feeling in an effective manner.

Miss Estelle Thorpe entertained the audience with a piano selection by Gottschalk entitled "Marche de Nini," which was beautifully played, the young lady showing excellent judgment both in phrasing and technique. She displayed a conscientious regard for the work she undertook, and gave an almost faultless rendering of the selection, which was followed by Miss Maud Hayward, who executed Durand's "Sous les Bois" in a brilliant and effective manner. The latter was followed by Miss Carrie Thomas, who executed Heethoven's "Rondo" in C, very effectively. The next number, "Minuet," by Miss Clara Palmer, was well executed, and Miss Ina Kennedy charmed her hearers by her rendition of a "Marche de Nini." A piano duo by Misses Phoebe Doty and Nita Manning was well received, as was a nocturne by Miss Georgia Fowler. Miss Nellie Holt followed with the song entitled "A Foolish Little Maiden" and Miss Amy Barker followed with an instrumental number, "In the Moonlight." Miss Estelle Thorpe then sang "I Dreamt" by Schira. The programme was an excellent one and showed Miss Thorpe's voice to good advantage. Her voice was sweet, yet powerful, and was well controlled. The lower register was full and clear and the upper notes were taken in a clear and certain tone.

The execution was very good and, in some cases, exceptionally so, showing careful and conscientious work on the part of the pupil and instructor. These numbers consisted of a piano number by Miss Kate Collins, a vocal solo by Miss Janet Livingston, a vocal number, double, by Miss Amy Barker, a piano solo by Misses Alma Kellers, Edith Abbott, Anna Nelson and Maud Hayward, and a chorus in which all the young ladies took part. Miss Barker's number was very rich and clear and had good advantage in Gounod's "Slumber Song."

The entire entertainment was a pronounced success, and the young ladies were recipients of many congratulations at the close.

A Picturesque Tournament.

A pretty and exceedingly animated specimen of class work was offered at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, Park Place, in the novel form of a "Tournament in the Field of General Information." The courteous combat was conducted in strict accordance with all the laws and usages of medieval chivalry, and the proceedings were dignified and joyous.

Seven fair champions, pupils of the second English class, composed the array of emulous knights, and the faculty and scholars of the academy formed the spectators. Four heralds, from the graduating class, appeared with badges of office, "Garter-bearers," proclaiming the nature and conditions of the polite contest, the importance of the occasion, the dignity of the audience and the lofty reputation of the forthcoming champions. "Lion-King-Arms," then threw open the folding doors which screened the seven champions of progress, and, while the third and fourth heralds led each combination in turn to the center of the lists, "Lion-King-Arms" became a device, deeds and armorial bearings of the several knights.

The lady knights wore beautiful shields in quaint designs, the author of which were pretty swords and lances of silver and enamel, fastened to their sides by gay ribbons. The first challenger drew from an urn, at the herald's signal, a card bearing the name of the defendant. The challenger made the interrogations rapidly, by her chance-scent card, and the opposer was expected to respond with equal alacrity. If she hesitated or failed, it was her sad duty to hand her lance, the first forfeited trophy, to her fair foe. The challenger must then reply to the remaining questions on the card herself, or, failing to do this, hand both her own lance and the captured weapon, to a knight whose name she herself drew from the urn. She then ran on, displaying, certainly, an amount and a variety of information unexpected in young ladies of sixteen.

The range of interrogation was as varied as the scheme itself was novel and ingenious. In one card might chance to be a quotation, the author of which was demanded, followed by the requisition of a date in history; succeeded by the name of a character in a classic, and a book to be named; after which might be presented a Latin motto or verse for translation; then the origin of some quaint name or custom; the name of a popular legend; or a reference to the works of great painters, poets, novelists, historians or architects, or queries on our own civil government, or explanations of some of the questions of the day. One knight had been so unfortunate as to have forfeited lance, sword and shield by three failures, she was hors du combat, but, happily, such defeat was not, in the degree of fate, reserved for any of these charming champions of progress.

Miss Dwight of Peoria, a remarkably pretty girl who received a great deal of attention from the eligible bachelors present, wore a fetching gown of white China silk.

Miss Moore, who wore black silk trimmed with white lace.

Miss Yost, a vivid blue gown trimmed with a profusion of lace.

Miss Enly Wakelley wore a delicate pink silk crepe, relieved by white lace, and white net, entraine.

Miss Curtis, white China silk with pansy trimming.

Miss Mary Ludington looked very pretty in a white tulle trimmed with white Van Dyke pointed ornaments.

Miss Hoagland, a very stylish Parisian gown of light blue crepe, prettily trimmed.

Miss Laura Hoagland wore a handsome costume of white silk.

Miss Jennie McChelland, yellow net over pink silk.

Miss Dundy wore one of the handsomest gowns at the reception, a golden brocade, velvet trimmed with a lighter shade of brocade.

Around the neck she wore a delicate blue ruffing of light blue crepe de sole.

Miss Bertie Jordan of St. Louis, also many considered the prettiest young lady present, wore a dainty tulle of white China silk trimmed with white lace, and a handsome bouquet of pink roses and also wore pink roses in her hair.

Miss Florence Yates, who goes into society but little on account of her health, appeared

in a pale blue silk and blue tulle, relieved by white hydrangeas.

Miss Beale Gales wore white tulle trimmed with white lace, and a handsome bouquet of pink roses.

Miss May Clark of Chicago, and another of the beauties present, made many conquests in a costume of dark maroon satin trimmed with purple, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Wilbur, Mrs. Deuel, Mrs. Caldwell, Mrs. Metcalf, Mrs. W. Morse, Mrs. Wheaton, Mrs. Colpeter, Mrs. Dan Bacon, Mrs. Woodworth, Mrs. David Baum, Mr. E. Baum, Mrs. Vail, Mrs. Lewis Reed, Mrs. Briggs and Williams, Misses Yates, Jessie Yates, Emma Yates, Sherry, Ida Sherry, Hoagland, Laura Hoagland, Hanson, Carter, Baum, Bishop, Wakelley, Millard, Williams, Miller.

Refreshments were served in a large room in a third story, which some day will undoubtedly be the billiard room, and all was everything arranged that there was little crowding, notwithstanding the presence of so many people.

Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. Barker, Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf, Mr. and Mrs. Dundy, Mr. and Mrs. Catlin, Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Wheeler, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Yates, Mr. and Mrs. S. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hamilton, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. W. Morse, Mrs. Deane, Dr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Deuel, Judge and Mrs. Lakeland and Mrs. Squires. Misses Dundy, Kennedy, Moore, West, Emily Wakelley, Douglas, Curtis, Ludington, Williams, Hoagland, Laura Hoagland, Metcalf, Jordan, Yates, Beale Yates, Brock, Clarke, Nash, Hubbard, Mrs. C. Peterson, Coyle, Schwartz, Barto, Art. Galon, Loomis, Shears, Kennedy, Coles, Keller, Stanley, Smith, Arthur, Smith, Deering, John and Rob. Patrick, Al Patrick, Briggs, Henry and Will Wyman Barlow, Barklow.

Two Pleasant Card Parties.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi Carter, who are occupying the Boyd residence at Nineteenth and Davenport streets during the absence of Mrs. Boyd and Miss Boyd in California, gave two delightful card parties last week, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. High five was played and many prizes were won.

Monday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock Mr. M. O. Maul and Mrs. L. M. Jacobs were united in marriage at Trinity cathedral, Dean Gardner officiating. The wedding was somewhat of a surprise to the many who were present, although it was generally known that it would be consummated in the near future. The bride and groom, however, have the warm wishes of a host of people. The wedding breakfast was given at the home of Mrs. Maul, 1700 Sprague street, where the bride and groom will visit friends.

The Turner Reception.

There is no more beautiful home in Omaha than that of Mrs. Charles Turner, at Thirty-sixth and Farnam streets. Occupying a commanding position at the top of the long incline on Farnam street, with an unobstructed view of the surrounding country, it is the ideal of a retired capitalist's residence. Surrounded by beautiful grounds, which slope gently toward the streets on either side, built of dark red pressed brick and Romanesque in its style of architecture, it completely fills the eye, as it must please the hearts of those who dwell there.

Completed in March last and occupied for more than nine months, it is essentially a new house, one of the few handsome mansions which have been completed within the year. And Friday evening it was thrown open to a large number of guests, many of whom were treated to their first view of the interior, which is quite in keeping with the beauty of the exterior. Although the invitations announced a reception, it was really in the nature of a house warming and per capita money was very few regrets received, for many of the people had a desire to see a model home, erected by one of the leading citizens of the city.

Interiorly the residence is a series of pictures. The drawing room to the left of the hallway is finished in an ivory white with gold border, the decorations, toning in with the woodwork, the furniture a shade darker and relieving the beautiful floor parquetry, which is a very dark wood, by a carpet of darker material running through it. The room is thoroughly Louis Seize in style, and is one of the very few examples of that school in the west. The dining room is in a much darker shade than the drawing room to the left or the library to the right, and brings out in relief the beautiful examples of the upholsterer and finisher's art as represented by these two rooms.

The library is large and roomy--for that matter all the rooms in the house are airy and bright, and is finished along the same lines as the drawing room, but in appreciably darker shades. Book cases line the walls, while here and there a statue or bust are delicately the eye and pleases the sense. The dining room is directly in the rear of the drawing room and like the other rooms on the ground floor is a point in color. A wide staircase leads from the hall to the upper rooms, which was utilized as a trysting place for many of the young men and maidens who were there.

Carriages entered from the Farnam street side and set down heads west, the guests entering the residence from the rear. A storm canopy, the back stairway which is almost as wide as any front stairway, in most houses, being utilized to get to the dressing room, the second story was reached by a party besides Mr. and Mrs. Charles Turner were Mr. Curtis Turner, Miss Turner and Miss Kennedy.

Mrs. Turner wore a handsome gown of black silk trimmed with exquisite lace.

Miss Turner was costumed in a pretty white cashmere and silk relieved by lilies of the valley and silk relieved by lilies of the valley.

Among the guests remarked for their handsome costumes were: Mrs. Joseph Baker, who wore a white gown with a profusion of pascamenterie trimming.

Mrs. Dr. C. E. Smith wore a very stylish gown of white silk crepe with platings of the same shade entraine.

Mrs. E. S. Dundy, black silk and diamonds.

Mrs. George Gould, a wedding gown of white silk trimmed with white lace, entraine.

Mrs. J. M. Metcalf, a white gown with an excellent taste in gowns, wore a dainty white brocade richly trimmed in gold pascamenterie.

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Mrs. S. Curtis, a very pretty and becomingly dressed gown of black Lyons velvet trimmed with white brocade, with black lace finish.

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Mrs. L. W. Hamilton, black silk, entraine.

Mrs. W. S. Poppleton, white crepe ornamented by broad ribbon trimmings of a bell-trope shade.

Mrs. Dan Wheeler, Sr., black silk.

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